

New combinations and a new name in Australian Sapotaceae

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Summary

Jessup, Laurence W. (2001). New combinations and a new name in Australian Sapotaceae. *Austrobaileya* 6(1): 161–163. Five new combinations made as follows, *Niemeyera whitei* for *Amorphospermum whitei* Aubrev., *Pouteria queenslandica* for *Planchonella queenslandica* P.Royen, *Pouteria myrsinifolia* for *Sersalisia myrsinifolia* F.Muell., *Pouteria myrsinodendron* for *Chrysophyllum myrsinodendron* F.Muell., *Pouteria cotinifolia* var. *pubescens* for *Planchonella cotinifolia* var. *pubescens* P.Royen, while *Pouteria asterocarpon* is a new combination made at a new rank for *Planchonella pohlmaniana* var. *asterocarpon* P.Royen, and *Pouteria pearsoniorum* is a new name provided for *Planchonella macrocarpa* P.Royen.

Keywords: *Niemeyera*, *Pouteria*, Sapotaceae, Australia.

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Introduction

In preparing an account of Sapotaceae for the Flora of Australia, I have encountered several taxa requiring new combinations or new names. Pennington (1991) included *Amorphospermum* F.Muell. as congeneric with *Niemeyera* F.Muell. rejecting the distinction between them proposed by Aubréville (1962) based on thickness of the seed coat. One Australian taxon still requires a new combination under *Niemeyera* and this is provided below. In the same publication, Pennington provided a detailed discussion of the reasons why *Planchonella* Pierre should be included in *Pouteria* Aublet and his conclusions are accepted here. Several taxa currently recognised at species or varietal rank under *Planchonella* have not yet been formally placed under *Pouteria*. To remedy this situation the necessary new combinations are made and new name provided as follows.

***Niemeyera whitei* (Aubrev.) Jessup, comb. nov.**

Amorphospermum whitei Aubrév., Adansonia ser. 2, 5: 23, t.2 (1965). **Type:** New South Wales, Whian Whian State Forest, May 1945 C.T. White 13043; (holo: BRI; iso: BRI, fide G.P. Guymer,

Australian Systematic Botany Society Newsletter 31: 11–13 (1982)).

***Pouteria queenslandica* (P. Royen) Jessup, comb. nov.**

Planchonella queenslandica P.Royen, Blumea 8: 341, 430 (1957), fig. 32. *Beccariella queenslandica* (P.Royen) Aubrev., Adansonia ser. 2, 3: 335 (1964). **Type:** Queensland, [SOUTH KENNEDY DISTRICT]: Eungella Mts, H.H. Haines 136 Q (holo: K).

[*Planchonella laurifolia* auct. non (A.Rich.) Pierre, W.D. Francis, Australian Rain-forest Trees 3rd edition p.350–353. Canberra, Australian Government Publishing Service; P. Royen, Blumea 8: 340, Fig. 31 (1957)].

Note: This tree, found in the rainforests of eastern Queensland and New South Wales, was incorrectly known for many years as *Planchonella laurifolia* (A.Rich.) Pierre. This name, based on *Sersalisia laurifolia* A.Rich., applies to a Northern Territory species now known as *Pouteria richardii* (F.Muell.) Baehni (as *Pouteria laurifolia* (Gomes) Radlk. applies to a different species). The type specimen of the former name was amongst several specimens given by Charles Fraser to Captain Jules Dumont d'Urville following Fraser's

expedition to Moreton Bay in 1828. Dumont d'Urville visited Sydney sometime during the voyage of the *Astrolabe* between 1826 and 1829. Unfortunately at least two specimens amongst this gift to the French visitors did not originate from Moreton Bay and were incorrectly included as part of Fraser's Moreton Bay collection. These specimens ultimately became types of two of Achille Richard's species' names, *Leucocarpum obscurum* A.Rich. (Celastraceae) and *Sersalisia laurifolia* A.Rich. (Sapotaceae). Replicates of these specimens were independently sent to Kew with the locality of origin noted on the label as Melville Island and the communicator as Charles Fraser. There is no evidence that Fraser ever went to Melville Island. The British naval settlement of Fort Dundas was established on Melville Island in 1824 not long after the establishment of Port Essington. Fraser sent a convict gardener, John Richardson, to be in charge of the garden for the new settlement of Port Essington (Barker & Barker, 1990). While there is no evidence that Richardson collected and dispatched specimens to Fraser, Richardson's convict status probably assured his name would not appear with any such specimens, their origin being attributed only to Fraser. Benthams (1863) noted the labelling error evident in the collections of *Denhamia obscura* (A.Rich.) Meisn. ex Walp. (*Leucocarpum obscurum* A.Rich.) but he apparently overlooked it when he examined and described, some years later, the Sapotaceae specimens as *Achras laurifolia* (A.Rich.) Benth. (Benthams, 1869).

***Pouteria myrsinifolia* (F.Muell.) Jessup, comb. nov.**

Sersalisia myrsinifolia F.Muell. 'Sarsalisia', *Fragm.* 5: 165 (1866). **Type:** [Queensland. MORETON DISTRICT]: Brisbane River, "20 feet high found on the sides of river, flowers greenish", W. Hill [MEL1058112] (MEL, lecto here selected).

Selected additional specimens seen: **Queensland:** Sea Range, Dec 1855, F. Mueller (MEL1515834) (MEL); MORETON DISTRICT: Moreton Bay, W. Hill (MEL1058111, MEL1058113) (MEL); Breakfast Creek, Moreton Bay, Jul 1843, L. Leichhardt (MEL1058110) (MEL, P); Brisbane River in 1829, Fraser (K). **New South Wales:** Sydney woods, Paris Exhibition, n. 27 and n. 40, 1855, Moore (P).

Note: Practically all herbarium specimens previously identified as *Planchonella myrsinoides* (A. Cunn. ex Benth.) S.T. Blake ex W.D. Francis or *Pouteria myrsinoides* (A. Cunn. ex Benth.) Baehni belong here. As the lectotype of *Achras myrsinoides*, basionym of both of the above two names, as selected by P.S. Green (1986) is taxonomically *Pouteria cotinifolia* var. *pubescens* (see below), another name is needed for the other plants Bentham included under that name. As lectotypified here, Mueller's name *Sersalisia myrsinifolia* of 1866 is the earliest legitimate name applying to them hence a new combination under *Pouteria* is required. Thus *Pouteria myrsinifolia* becomes the correct name for the plant called for many years *Planchonella myrsinoides*. I have examined at K and MEL all the specimens cited by Bentham (1869) and all except the Cunningham collection from Rodd's Bay are of *P. myrsinifolia*.

***Pouteria cotinifolia* var. *pubescens* (P.Royen) Jessup, comb. nov.**

Planchonella cotinifolia var. *pubescens* P. Royen, *Blumea* 8: 296, 428 (1957). **Type:** Queensland. LEICHHARDT DISTRICT: Duaringa, mixed softwood forest, 23 Nov 1943, C.T. White 12462; holo: L; iso: BRI.

Pouteria myrsinoides (A. Cunn. ex Benth.) Baehni, *Candollea* 9: 303 (1942); *Achras myrsinoides* A. Cunn. ex Benth., *Fl. Austral.* 4 (16 Dec. 1868) 283. *Sideroxylon myrsinoides* (A. Cunn. ex Benth.) F.Muell., *Systematic Census of Australian Plants* 92 (1883); *Planchonella myrsinoides* (A. Cunn. ex Benth.) S.T. Blake ex W.D. Francis, *Australian Rain Forest Trees* ed. 2, 358 (1951); *Xantolis myrsinoides* (A. Cunn. ex Benth.) Baehni, *Boissiera* 11: 23, fig 17 (1965); *Sapota myrsinoides* (F. Muell. ex Benth.) Radlk. ex Holle, *Thése Erlangen* 17 (1892); fide C. Baehni, *Candollea* 9: 303 (1942); *Sersalisia myrsinoides* (A. Cunn. ex Benth.) Domin, *Biblioth. Bot.* 89: 508 (1928). **Type:** [Queensland. PORT CURTIS DISTRICT]: Rodd's Bay, A. Cunningham 123 (lecto: K, fide P.S. Green (1986));

Note: These changes affect the name of the New Caledonian and Lord Howe Island plant called *Pouteria myrsinoides* subsp. *reticulata* (Baill.) P.S.Green. I hesitate to make a new combination for this plant under either *P. cotinifolia* or *P. myrsinifolia* as I have not examined the New Caledonian specimens to verify Green's conclusion that they and the Lord Howe Island specimens represent the same subspecies (Green 1990). Until further work on the relationships between these Australian and neighbouring island plants is done it seems best to apply the name *Pouteria howeana* (F.Muell.) Baehni to the Lord Howe Island and New Caledonian plants.

***Pouteria pearsoniorum* Jessup, nom. nov.**

Planchonella macrocarpa P. Royen, Blumea 8: 320, 429, fig. 27 (1957), non *Pouteria macrocarpa* (Martius) D. Dietrich, Synopsis Plantarum 1:431 (1839) et non *Pouteria macrocarpa* (Huber) A.Ducke, Bol. Técn. Inst. Agron. N. No.8. 11 (1946), nom. illegit. **Type:** Queensland. COOK DISTRICT: Kaban, *Pearson brothers* s.n. (holo: BRI; iso: BRI, L).

Etymology: The epithet honours the Pearson brothers, collectors of the type specimen.

Note: B. Hyland (pers. comm.) has suggested that the locality Kaban is more likely to be a postal address than the place where the type was actually collected.

***Pouteria myrsinodendron* (F.Muell.) Jessup, comb. nov.**

Chrysophyllum myrsinodendron F.Muell., Fragm. 6: 178 (1868). **Type:** [Queensland. NORTH KENNEDY DISTRICT]: Herbert River, *J. Dallachy*. (holo: MEL; iso: BM ex herb. Hance).

Planchonella obovoidea H.J.Lam, Bull. Jard. Bot. Buitenzorg ser.3, 7: 207, fig. 56 (1925). **Type:** [Malesia]. Kai Is., *Jahe* 134 (holo: ?BO n.v. fide Lam, op. cit.; iso: L). *Pouteria obovoidea* (H.J. Lam) Baehni, Candollea 9: 412 (1942).

Note: Bentham (1869, p.283) referred to Mueller's name as representing a possible form of *Pouteria obovata* (R.Br.) Baehni which he accepted as *Achras obovata* (R.Br.) F.Muell. ex Benth. This may have obscured the plant's true identity from subsequent authors.

***Pouteria asterocarpon* (P.Royen) Jessup, comb. et stat. nov.**

Planchonella pohlmaniana var. *asterocarpon* P.Royen, Blumea 8: 395, 432, fig. 42 e-f. (1957). **Type:** Queensland. [COOK DISTRICT]: Atherton district, *Kemp* s.n. [AQ22582] (holo: BRI).

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